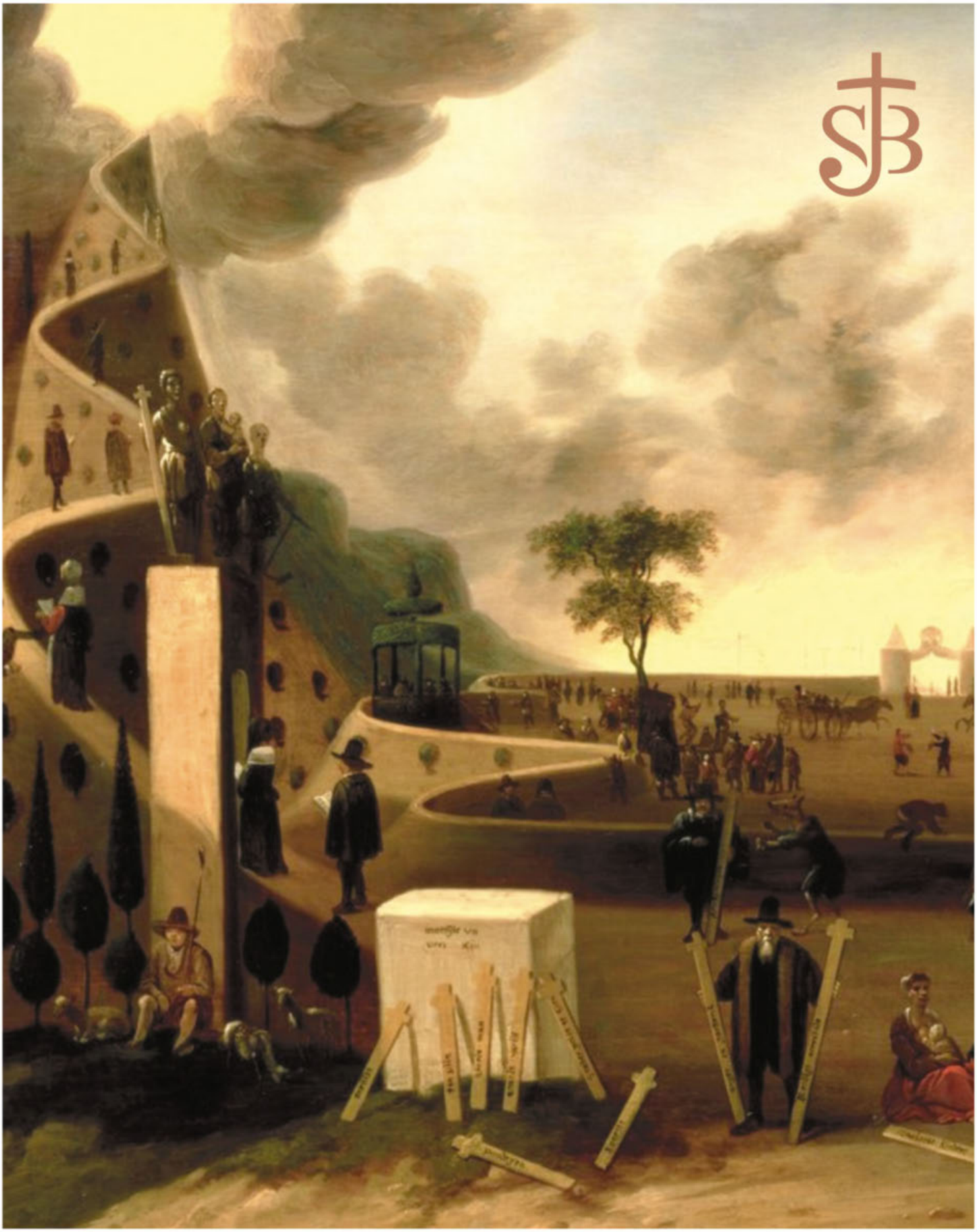

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church 411 Florence St Ypsilanti, MI 48197 734.483.3360

YpsiCatholic.org

August 24th, 2025

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

FROM OUR PASTORS

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Blessed Sunday to you all! We have been hearing the letter to the Hebrews proclaimed over the last few weeks and today it gives us an opportunity to reflect upon the meaning of struggles, trials, and suffering within the context of New Covenant.

The Old Testament thoroughly explores the question of suffering, in particular the suffering of the righteous, seeking to make sense of God's justice and omnipotence in a world where good people suffer evil. Deuteronomy 30:16–18 lays out the Theology of Retribution, which says that faithfulness to God's covenant will bring long life, prosperity, and security, while turning away brings death and destruction. This idea is rooted in the history of Israel, whose infidelity ultimately led to exile and the destruction of the temple. However, this explanation of suffering is insufficient to account for much personal suffering and the trials faced by the faithful — notably Job and many of the prophets. Therefore, if God is truly just and all-powerful, there must be another explanation for suffering in the world besides punishment for sin and wrongdoing.

The Book of Sirach says, "For in fire gold is tested, and the chosen, in the crucible of humiliation" (2:4), and also, "Whoever loves a son will chastise him often, that he may be his joy when he grows up" (30:1). As the Jewish people wrestled with this problem of the suffering of the righteous, they came to recognize the good which can come forth from the trials and persecution faced by upright men and women. In trials we can be taught, strengthened, and sanctified. This is especially true with the coming of Christ, the revelation of God as Father, and the gift the Sacrament of Baptism, by which we are made Sons and Daughters of God. If we cling to God and trust in him in the midst of any difficulties, then trials are transformed into disciplines, which lead us closer to Jesus, who is the way, the truth, and the life. Our Father does not wish for us to suffer and be miserable in this life, but at times he allows it, to lead us on the straight and narrow path to eternal life, to teach us the truth, and to receive the gifts of strength and life. So, this week let us renew our trust and confidence in the providence of God our Father, keeping our eyes fixed on him, our light in the Darkness, that our sufferings, trials, and difficulties might bear fruit in this life and the next.

Peace,

Fr. Jack

MASS TIMES

Monday	12:15 PM
Tuesday	6:00 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM
Thursday	8:00 AM
Friday	12:15 PM
Saturday	8:00 AM
	5:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM
	11:00 AM

9:00 AM Mass Livestreamed here.

Recitation of the Rosary is held after daily Mass, Wednesday through Saturday.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

In the Adoration Chapel

Tuesday 9:00 AM-5:45 PM
Wednesday 9:00 AM-9:00 PM
Friday 1:00 PM-5:00 PM

ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

First Friday of the Month
Friday, 1:00 PM through
Saturday, 7:45 AM

CONFESSION

Monday	11:00 AM
Tuesday	6:30 PM
Friday	11:00 AM
Saturday	3:30 PM

REGISTRATION FOR FAMILY FORMATION

NOW OPEN!

Family Formation is for all families—whether your kids are infants, high schoolers, or in between. We meet every 1st and 3rd Sunday, after the 11am Mass, during the school year, to grow as disciples in community, together as a family. Each afternoon includes:

- Brunch
- Family Praise & Worship
- Age-Specific Catechesis for kids and teens, Adult Formation through talks and small group discussion
- Monthly at-home materials to support parents as the primary catechists of their children

Family Formation is an essential part of preparing for First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation. All families are encouraged to participate—including those whose children attend Catholic school or homeschool.

SCAN THE QR CODE
OR REGISTER AT
YPSICATHOLIC.ORG/FAMILY-FORMATION

First Communion

Our Family Formation program at SJB is an essential part of preparing for the sacraments of First Communion and First Reconciliation. Preparation is a one-year process that typically occurs in 2nd grade.

Participation in Family Formation *is required* for children who are not receiving preparation through a local Catholic school or homeschool.

If you have a child in Catholic school or home school who intends to receive these sacraments this year, contact us before the school year begins.

Confirmation

Preparing for Confirmation at SJB is a two-year program, typically for 7th and 8th grade students. The program runs from September until May. ***The requirements for confirmation include:***

- Student and parent attendance at Family Formation, which take place twice a month, after the 11AM Mass, 12:15-2:30 PM.
- Student attendance at all Wildfire Youth Group Nights which take place every other Sunday, from 7-8:30 PM here at SJB.

SJ Beat

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING
COMMUNITY LIFE AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

We're excited to kick off another amazing season of faith, fellowship, and formation here at St. John the Baptist! As summer winds down, we're gearing up for a full lineup of events to bring our parish family together and deepen our walk with Christ.

All Night Adoration— On the first Friday of the month, come spend time in quiet prayer and encounter the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. This is a sacred space for rest, renewal, and listening for God's voice speaking into your heart.

Men's Breakfast— On the second Saturday of the month, the men of the parish gather for food, fellowship, and real conversation about faith and life. Strength for your journey and building of brotherhood.

Worship Night— On the third Friday of the month we lift our voices and hearts together in praise! Come experience powerful worship music, prayer, and the presence of God in a dynamic, spirit-filled evening.

Women's Breakfast— Join us for a morning of community, inspiration, and great talks. It's a beautiful way to connect with other women of faith and be nourished in spirit.

Holy Brews— On October 1st, Holy Brews returns! On the first Wednesday of each month, we gather at the Ypsi Alehouse for casual, faith-centered conversations over pints and a peck. Bring your questions, bring a friend, and join us for a talk about the things that matter most. Each evening features a guest speaker, followed by a lively Q&A.

NEXT MONTH

ALL-NIGHT ADORATION
FRIDAY, September 5th,
1pm through
SATURDAY, September 6th,
7:45am
in the Adoration Chapel

MEN'S BREAKFAST
SATURDAY, September 13th
after the 8am Mass
downstairs in the PLC

WORSHIP NIGHT
FRIDAY, September 19th
6:30pm
downstairs in the PLC

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST
SATURDAY, September 27th
after the 8am Mass
downstairs in the PLC

HOLY BREWS
WEDNESDAY, October 1st
7pm
Ypsi Alehouse
124 Pearl St #100
Ypsilanti, MI

JOIN THE SJB TEAM!

We are currently seeking a PART TIME COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

From our Communications Coordinator, Cynthia Rutherford,

As I prepare to transition out of this role, I'd like to share what a gift it has been to serve as the Communications Coordinator here at St. John the Baptist.

This position has helped me grow tremendously in my faith. I've had the joy of using my creativity to serve the Church, sharing the Gospel through digital and print media, and supporting the mission of our parish. From designing bulletins and writing articles to capturing the beauty of parish life, it's been both fun and fulfilling.

What makes this role truly special is the people. I've been blessed to work alongside a team that is not only talented but deeply rooted in prayer and guided by the Holy Spirit. We genuinely care for one another. We've assembled the best team—united in faith and committed to serving our community.

If you're passionate about communication, creativity, and the Catholic faith, I encourage you to apply. This isn't just a job—it's a vocation and a beautiful way to serve the Church.

To see qualifications and to apply scan the QR code or visit dioceseoflansing.org/human-resources/careers

CAMPUS MINISTRY WELCOME WEEK!

Welcome Week for our students is upon us, and we are so excited to be back in full swing! Our community is hitting the ground running with a Welcome Back Brunch, our Thursday Night Gathering, on-campus outreach, and even Mass on campus at EMU. Please keep us in your prayers as we connect with new students and joyfully welcome back familiar faces from last year. We trust that God has many blessings planned for our ministry this year—and we can't wait to witness all that He has in store!

CONNECT WITH US!

INSTAGRAM
@sjbcampusministry

EMAIL
cm@ypsicatholic.org

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CAMPUS MINISTRY

SEEKING CATECHISTS FOR FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Family Faith Formation at St. John the Baptist is looking for passionate, faith-filled individuals to serve as catechists for our Sunday afternoon sessions — just two times per month.

Whether you're:

- A parent of a child already attending
- Someone who loves working with kids
- A person who feels called to serve the Church

— we'd love for you to join our team!

As a catechist, you'll help children deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith and build a personal relationship with God. Sessions include prayer, group discussions, games, crafts, and other fun, faith-enriching activities.

No teaching experience? No problem. We provide full training and a complete curriculum — all you need is a heart for Christ and His children.

Must be a Catholic in good standing and open to learning and growing in your own faith. Interested? Have questions?
Contact Jacob at jacobg@ypsicatholic.org

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

JOIN IN THE WONDER OF THE 3-6 YEAR OLD CHILD

Mark your calendars, CGS returns to SJB next month! Every week in the Atrium, a room containing beautiful, hands-on materials, —the child's attention is focused on key Scripture passages or liturgical moments. The 3-6 year old child enters the mystery of the Eucharist, first by learning the names of the articles used on the altar, and then through the most important gestures, including the preparation of the chalice, the epiclesis and offering, and the sign of peace.

Registration is now open!

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER

CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST WITH US!

Our annual SJBash is almost here — and you won't want to miss it! Join us for an evening of faith, food, and family fun! We'll kick things off with Mass at 6PM, followed by dinner, games, and activities for all ages.

Volunteers needed — come be part of the fun behind the scenes! Just contact Alaina Smith: alaina.l.smith@gmail.com

FRIDAY,
AUGUST 29TH
BEGINNING WITH MASS AT 6PM

NEW FALL SESSIONS! OUR "WHAT THE CHURCH TEACHES" SERIES CONTINUES...

The "What the Church Teaches" series is our answer to OCIA. Whether you're new and just exploring the Catholic faith or are a lifelong Catholic looking to go deeper, you're warmly invited to join us!

SEPT 8TH- Welcome, Intro, & Tour of Church

SEPT 15TH- Why Do I Need the Church? The Mystery of the Catholic Church

MONDAYS AT 6:30
DOWNSTAIRS IN THE PLC

FALL BIBLE STUDIES

A full listing of our Fall Bible Studies is now available at our website. Scan the QR code or visit YpsiCatholic.org/ bible-study.

MICHIGAN CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Women from across Michigan are invited to come together to focus on their faith and experience the fellowship of sisterhood in Christ Jesus. Throughout the day, you will hear from Catholic speakers, engage in praise and worship music, and celebrate holy Mass with our bishops.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11
9AM-5PM
LANSING CENTER, LANSING, MI

SACRAMENTS

MATRIMONY
Couples should contact the parish office to inquire about Marriage Formation as soon as they are engaged.

BAPTISM
Parents are required to attend a preparation session and must be registered parishioners for at least three months. Pre-registration is required. Please call the parish office for more information.

LAY MINISTER INFORMATION
If you are interested in serving as a Liturgical Minister or wish to update your schedule preferences, please submit your request by email to schedule@ypsicatholic.org.

REQUESTING MASS INTENTIONS
Call or visit the parish office to ask for a special day. Weekday and weekend Masses are available. The stipend for a Mass intention is $10. Mass cards are also available.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK
Please call the parish office for more information.

FUNERALS
Please call the parish office for more information.

OFFICE PHONE
734-483-3360

JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR...

Katie (O'Toole) Davis
Kris Kapcia
Ann Marie Rusiniak
Kailyn Fitzgerald
Dorothy Chan
Philip Philipose
Shibu Philipose
Gemma Almendras
Jake Meyer
Pfc. Carter Hornbeck
Caroline Stramecky

Please call the office if you would like to add a name to the list of intercessions for healing or for men and women in the armed forces. Names will be removed after four weeks unless we receive a request to continue.

Remember also that our Book of Petitions is located in The Gathering Space. These intercessions are prayed for at every Mass

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, AUGUST 25
12:15 PM: † Fay Purcell
Requested by Andrew Mills

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26
6:00 PM: † James L. Stimach
Requested by Mike Krell

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27
8:00 AM: † Noreen Muckey
Requested by Ellen Gibson

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28
8:00 AM: Intentions of Maggie & Daryl Sell on their 55th Anniversary
Requested by The Sells

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29
12:15 PM: Increase in Vocations

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30
8:00 AM:

5 PM: † Susan Deane & Eugene McCully
Requested by Leanna McCully

SUNDAY, AUGUST 31
9:00 AM: † Maria Laflamme
Requested by Daryl Laflamme

11 AM: People of the Parish

NEEDED, WANTED, & AVAILABLE

SJB is giving away the following tech equipment:

- 4x AP2000G Amped Wireless Router
- 1x APA2600M Amped Wireless Router
- 1x ML1430 Samsung Printer
- 1x JTDAT5CH J-Tech HDMI to RCA Audio Converter

First come, first served!
Call the office at 734-483-3360

GIVE ONLINE

ypsicatholic.org/give

The Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist

POPE BENEDICT XVI | GENERAL AUDIENCE
CASTEL GANDOLFO

Wednesday, 29 August 2012

"The entire existence of the Forerunner of Jesus was nourished by his relationship with God, particularly the period he spent in desert regions (cf. Lk 1:80). The desert regions are places of temptation but also where man acquires a sense of his own poverty because once deprived of material support and security, he understands that the only steadfast reference point is God himself. John the Baptist, however, is not only a man of prayer, in permanent contact with God, but also a guide in this relationship. The Evangelist Luke, recalling the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples, the Our Father, notes that the request was formulated by the disciples in these words: "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his own disciples" (cf. Lk 11:1).

Dear brothers and sisters, celebrating the martyrdom of St John the Baptist reminds us too, Christians of this time, that with love for Christ, for his words and for the Truth, we cannot stoop to compromises. The Truth is Truth; there are no compromises. Christian life demands, so to speak, the "martyrdom" of daily fidelity to the Gospel, the courage, that is, to let Christ grow within us and let him be the One who guides our thoughts and our actions. However, this can happen in our life only if we have a solid relationship with God.

Prayer is not time wasted, it does not take away time from our activities, even apostolic activities, but exactly the opposite is true: only if we are able to have a faithful, constant and trusting life of prayer will God himself give us the ability and strength to live happily and serenely, to surmount difficulties and to witness courageously to him. St John the Baptist, intercede for us, that we may be ever able to preserve the primacy of God in our life. Thank you."

St. John the Baptist, our Patron, Pray for us!

LAY MINISTER SCHEDULE
AUGUST 30TH & AUGUST 31ST

SATURDAY 5:00 PM	SUNDAY 9:00 AM	SUNDAY 11:00 AM
USHERS		
Jeff Decker	Shawn Lenhardt	Alex Uram
Josh Reszke	Angela Parrinello	Steve Uram
Need Volunteer	Christine Sullivan	John Urbanic
Need Volunteer	Brenda Swan	Aimee Uram-Taylor
GREETERS		
Need Volunteer	John Belleba	Need Volunteer
Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer
LECTORS		
Patricia Gillay	Rebecca Lussier	Jack Lynch
Tom Moffit	Van Vandagriff	Joe McKeone
SACRISTAN		
ADULT:	ADULT:	ADULT:
Toni Esteva	Liz Richards	Judy Ramirez
JUNIOR:	JUNIOR:	JUNIOR:
Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer	Need Volunteer
ALTAR SERVERS		
Lawrence Okpala	Adrian Anderson	Donald Cahalan
Jordan Wells	Joe Comazzi	Eliseo Gonzalez
Scott Wells	Need Volunteer	Walter Reister

We are always in need of Ushers, Greeters, Junior Sacristans, and Altar Servers.

OFFICE HOURS AND INFO

PARISH OFFICE

411 Florence Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
734.483.3360
www.ypsicatholic.org

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
(Closed for lunch 12:00- 1:00)

CEMETERY

1400 North River Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
734.368.7949

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Dcn. Curtis Scholl, Permanent Deacon
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Dcn. Mark Millage, Permanent Deacon
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Jacob Gjernes, Director of Youth Discipleship
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Business Manager
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Cynthia Rutherford, Communications
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Liz Barber, Bookkeeper
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Anna Wells, Receptionist
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Tracy Pope, Facilities Manager
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Marriage Coordinator
weddings@ypsicatholic.org

Food Pantry Ministry
pantry@ypsicatholic.org

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bulletin@ypsicatholic.org

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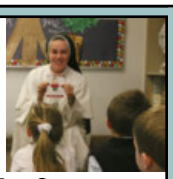
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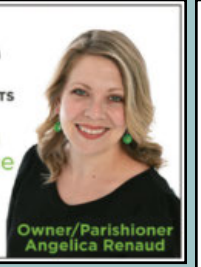
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